

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 00924 060949Z

21

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15

SAM-01 OMB-01 ISO-00 ACDA-19 IO-14 CU-04 DRC-01 /132 W

----- 076904

R 060854Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2390

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SEOUL 924

EO 11652 N/A

TAGS: PINT, KS

SUBJ: EMERGENCY MEASURES: INTERROGATION OF JOURNALISTS

REF: SEOUL 0893

1. PRESS SOURCES HAVE INDICATED THAT A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF ROK JOURNALISTS HAVE BEEN TAKEN IN FOR QUESTIONING BY KCIA IN RECENT WEEKS AS PART OF GOVT'S EFFORTS TO STAMP OUT SIGNATURE CAMPAIGN. ONE SOURCE SANUPATHIRDS OF TONGA ILBO REPORTERS AND AN ALMOST EQUAL NUMBER OF CHOSUN ILBO HAD SIGNED PETITION. PURPOSE OF INTERROGATIONS WAS TO MAKE THEM RECANT. KCIA METHODS REPORTEDLY NOT EXTREME AND MOST WERE NOT HELD OVERNIGHT.

2. AMONG THOSE MOST RECENTLY INTERROGATED WERE TONGA ILBO ARTIST KIM SONG-WHAN, CREATOR OR POPULAR SATIRICAL CARTOON STRIP "KOBALU," AND SEOUL REGIONAL NEWS BUREAU CHIEF NAMED OH. KIM WAS RELEASED AFTER EIGHT HOURS AND STATUS OF OH IS NOT CLEAR.

"KOBALU" STRIP WAS CONSPICUOUSLY MISSING FROM FEB 6 TONGA ILBO.

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3. TONGA ILBO SEOUL BUREAU CHIEF OH IS SAID TO
BE A CLOSE ASSOCIATE OF PROMINENT FORMER TONGA
EDITOR CHON KWAN-U, ONE OF THE PROMOTERS OF
SIGNATURE CAMPAIGN. IN THIS CONNECTION, PROSECUTOR
WHO ANNOUNCED BREAK-UP OF "INTELLECTUAL
SPY RING" FEB 5 ALSO STATED THAT CHON KWAN-U
AND OTHERS WERE UNDER INVESTIGATION FOR POSSIBLE
INVOLVEMENT IN SPY RING.
HABIB

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL STABILITY, PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION, JOURNALISTS, ARRESTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974SEOUL00924
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

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